

NEWS RELEASE

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KENAI MAN INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY FOR IDENTITY THEFT

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that on November 19, 2009, Richard Leo Hadsell, of Kenai, Alaska, was indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of passport fraud, using a false social security number and identity to obtain permanent fund dividends, and aggravated identity theft.

The 12-count indictment names Hadsell, age 71, as the sole defendant.

Hadsell was arrested by Alaska State Troopers in Kenai on November 18, 2009, pursuant to a federal warrant and returned to Anchorage by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Social Security Administration.

According to the indictment presented to the grand jury by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tom Bradley, Hadsell used at least four identities, using the names "Stanley Miller," "Eugene Easley," and "Richard Sunkle." The indictment alleges that Hadsell obtained four U.S. passports under the "Miller" identity, and charges him with passport fraud and aggravated identity theft for using the Miller identity to obtain a passport in 2007. Hadsell is accused of obtaining over \$30,000 in permanent fund dividends under the "Easley" name since 1985, and is charged with five counts of using a falsely obtained social security number and six counts of aggravated identity theft for using the Easley identity on his 2005-2009, PFD applications.

The indictment also alleges that Hadsell is wanted by Oregon authorities, who issued a warrant for his arrest in 2000, under the Sunkle name. According to the indictment, the real Stanley Miller, the real Edward Sunkle and the real Eugene Easley are all deceased.

The indictment also alleges that Hadsell obtained Alaska driver's licenses and identification cards in both the Hadsell and Miller names, and to have opened credit union accounts in both names as well.

The defendant faces a maximum prison term of ten years on the passport charge, and five years on each of the false social security number counts. In addition, the law calls for a mandatory two year consecutive prison term on each count of aggravated identity theft.

The case was investigated by the Office of the Inspector General, Social Security Administration in Seattle; the Diplomatic Security Service, U.S. Department of State, in Seattle; the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in Anchorage; and the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend Division, in Juneau. The Kenai Police Department and the Alaska State Troopers also assisted in the investigation and apprehension of Mr. Hadsell.

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